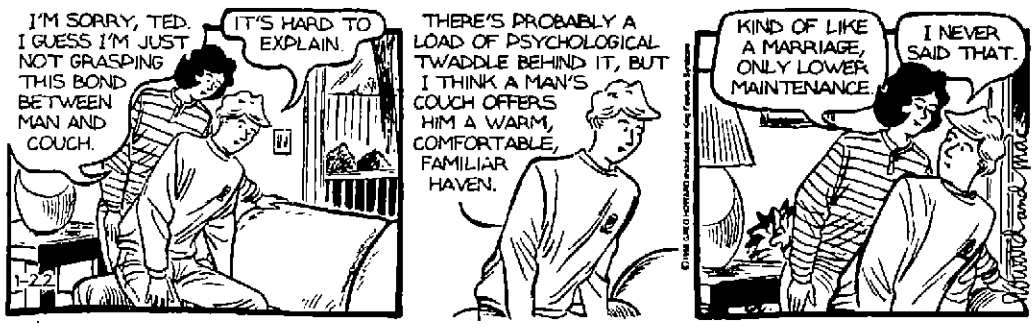
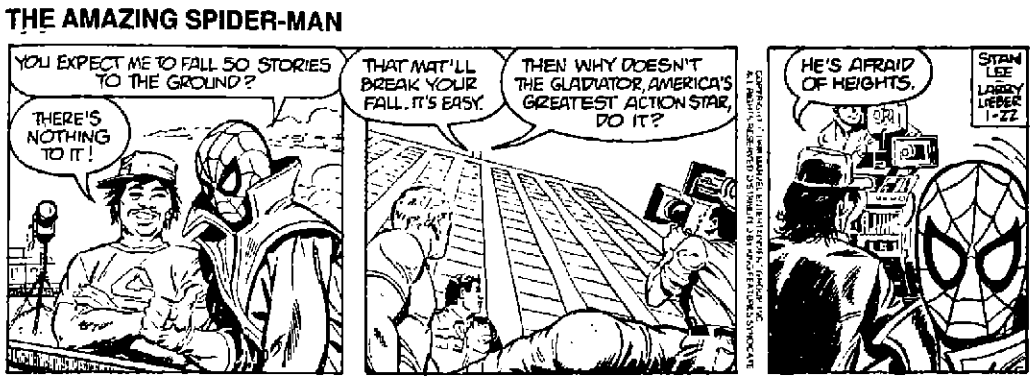
BLONDIE

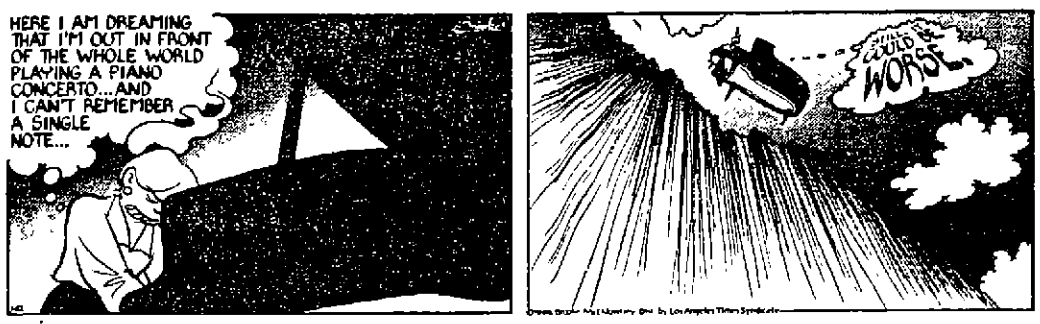
SALLY FORTH



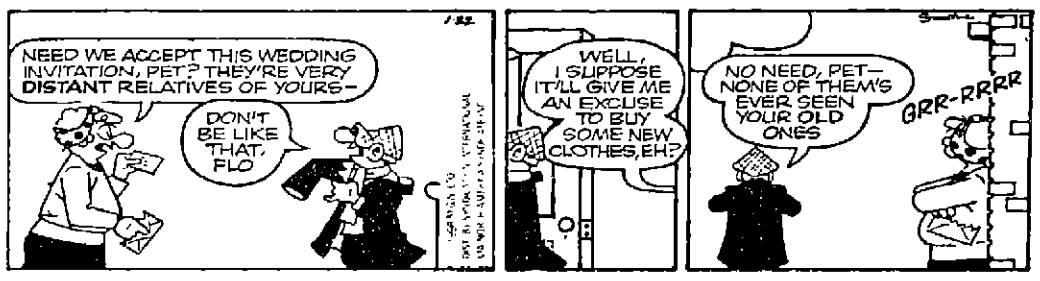
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE

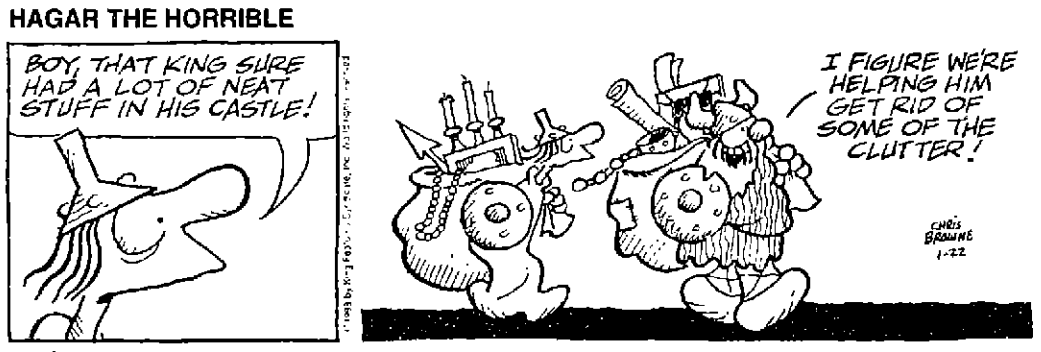


ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



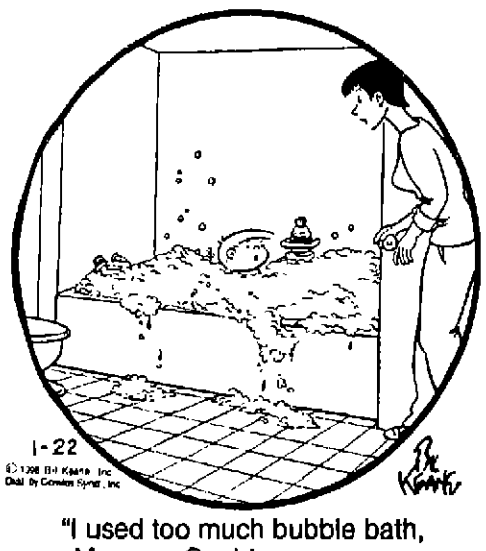
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM

DILBERT

DENNIS THE MENACE

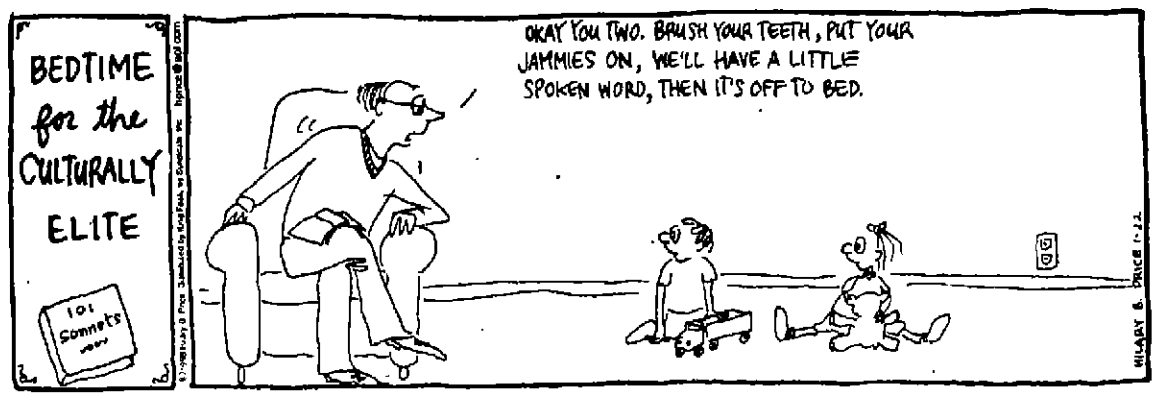
"AT LEAST NOW MY CLOTHES MATCH THE SOUP."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"I used too much bubble bath, Mommy. Could you vacuum some off the top?"

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



HOROSCOPE

For Friday, Jan. 23, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is a day of new beginnings for you at work. It's a wise idea to set up some relevant meetings.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Although you usually shy away from making extensive commitments to "club" activities, you will find yourself a more active participant.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You could find yourself involved with a project in which the ultimate goal is to the benefit of humanity.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your self-confidence is at an all-time high, leaving you in a wonderfully buoyant, productive mood.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) If you have ever pictured yourself wheeling and dealing, this is the day for you. Buying and selling seem to be in the stars right now, so go ahead and haggle!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your sharp mind is ever on the alert for new challenges. Thus, this day will really satisfy this cerebral bent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) This is a day for the wonderful world of reading to beckon to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Recreational pursuits are favored by the stars, so enjoy this.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) It's a good time to get involved in new projects and tasks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Any contractual commitments or agreements you make will be quite profitable for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) This is a good time to consider revising long-term financial plans about retirement.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Advice received concerning a business situation is right on the mark, and you would be wise to heed this.

RALPH

"When I said bring me something warm to put on, I didn't mean Ben-Gay."

WORD SLEUTH

Canadian-born athletes

C K I F C Z R W U R R P M J H
E I K S R U G A N P E C Z X U
S Q N L E J R N G L K E C Z X
V T R L S O E E I A L P N L J
H E F E R C T C I N A A Y W V
T A R M O O Z I R T W P Y N L
L K I I G E K C S E T O O B Z
X W U E S R Y J H O I O R P O
M L J U I G E D O B P P R B A
Y X W X U T S Q W T P S M T O
N L K J H G F R E I S S E M D

Wednesday's unlisted clue: HUDDLE
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Thursday's unlisted clue hint: NL MVP LARRY —

Browning	Lafleur	Nagurski	Roy
Esposito	Lemieux	Orr	Stojko
Gretzky	M. Pierce	Orser	Trottier
Howe	Messier	Plante	

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

When used judiciously, defensive signals can be priceless. When they give declarer as much information as partner, they are likely to boomerang. Look over East's defense. Will a suit-preference signal benefit partner or declarer? West attacked with his club ace, and when East signaled with his jack, West led another club to East's king. Guiding West's defense, East returned his club 10, covered by South's queen, and West ruffed. East's club 10 was an obvious suit-preference signal asking partner to return the higher-ranking of the two side suits. East certainly wanted a spade return instead of a diamond. West complied and led a spade, but South was also "listening." He rose with dummy's spade ace, cashed his trump king, overtook his trump queen in dummy, and took a diamond finesse.

	NORTH	01-22-A
	♠ A Q	
	♥ A 10 8 7	
	♦ Q J 10 9	
	♣ 7 6 2	
WEST		EAST
♠ J 9 5 3 2		♠ K 10 8 4
♥ 9 4 3		♥ 5
♦ 4 3 2		♦ K 8 7 6
♣ A 5		♣ K J 10 9
	SOUTH	
	♠ 7 6	
	♥ K Q J 6 2	
	♦ A 5	
	♣ Q 8 4 3	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Club ace

When it won, he cashed his diamond ace and returned to dummy in trumps to lead the diamond queen. Now it didn't matter if East covered. South had a parking place for his low spade, and the defenders got only the first three tricks. Was it wrong for East to signal for the spade shift? Yes, it was. East should have known West's natural shift would have been a spade with or without the signal. Had East held the diamond ace, he would have cashed it before giving West his club ruff. Therefore, there was nothing to gain by signaling with the club 10.

BRIDGE RESULTS

Bridge America: Saturday evening, 1 NS, Sue Frisch, Dorte Hammond; 2 NS, Julie Sunser, Bob Seymour; 1 EW, Madeline Hutchinson, Shirley Savlov; 2 EW, Bill Barrington, Jean Oberg.

The Bridge Studio: Monday morning, first, Mary Smith, Olin Smith; second, Ralph Carley, Allene Huntley; Monday evening, first, Joe Fortino, Mary Walsh; second, Dennis Cleary, Paul Peters; Tuesday evening, first, Fran LeBoeuf, Cameron Ross; second, Bill Barrington, Ellen Dixon; Wednesday evening, first, Sharon Ausman, Howie Cring; second, Jeff King, Monny Moncrief; Thursday morning Teaching Game; 1 NS, Donna Haskins, Janet Sinclair; 2 NS, Joe Myers, Sarah Myers; 1 EW, Sarah Fiorito, Janet Gillen; 2 EW, Betsy Stone, Jim Stone; Friday morning, first, John Molinari, Julie Sunser; second, Allene Huntley, Larry Sunser; Friday evening, first, Ellen Dixon, Judy Everts; second/third, Sharon Ausman, Arlene Rainone; Allene Huntley, Mike Walsh.

Concord Aces: Monday morning, 1 NS, Jane Hackbarth, Clo Morris; 2 NS, Lois Myers, Eileen Wayne; 1 EW, Dale Swift, Gene Wurdinger; 2 EW, Fran McCarthy, Gerry Wurdinger.

Stonehedge: Tuesday morning, 1 NS, Jane Hackbarth, Clo Morris; 2 NS, Ann Divers, Norma Germain; 1 EW, Gerry Burns, Betty Pfeiffer; 2 EW, Fran Dussault, Harriet Kaprowski.

Call 422-4114 by Friday evening to report your bridge club results.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actress **Ann Sothern** is 89. Actress **Piper Laurie** is 66. Author **Joseph Wambaugh** is 61. Chef **Jeff Smith** ("The Frugal Gourmet") is 59. Actor **John Hurt** is 58. Rock singer **Steve Perry** is 45. Hockey Hall-of-Famer **Mike Bossy** is 41. Actress **Linda Blair** is 39. Actress **Diane Lane** is 35. Actor-rap **DJ Jazzy Jeff** is 33. Country singer **Regina Nicks** (Regina Regina) is 33. Rhythm and blues singer **Marc Gay** (Shai) is 29. Actor **Balthazar Getty** is 23. Rhythm and blues singer **Kelton Kessee** (Immature) is 17.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On this date:

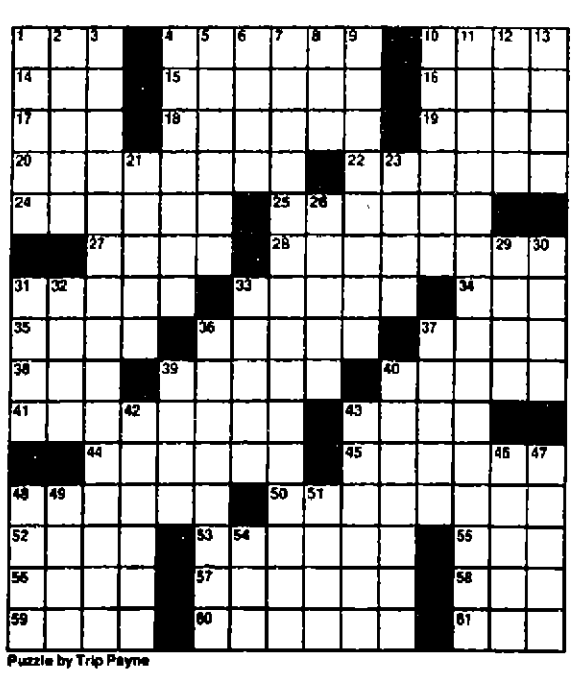
In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 82.

In 1917, President Wilson pleaded for an end to war in Europe, calling for "peace without victory." (By April, however, America was also at war.)

In 1970, the first regularly scheduled commercial flight of the Boeing 747 began in New York City and ended in London some 6½ hours later.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1211



ACROSS

1 Twaddle
4 Sears one's steers
10 Binge
14 Gompers's grp.
15 American hardwood
16 "Aunt" with a 1979 best seller
17 Letters often followed by a number
18 Coolness
19 First name?
20 Bouquets
22 Holography needs
24 Con jobs
25 "Consider Yourself" musical
27 Stew
28 Mergenthaler patent of 1884
31 Atlanta's Bill Campbell, e.g.
33 Guys who use come-on lines?
34 Masseur's need
35 Tautomeric compound
36 Acts like a quidnunc
37 Nonexistent
38 St. Anthony's cross
39 Trigger pullers?
40 Essential parts
41 Heights
43 Kitties
44 Léger, e.g.
45 Moving to the rhythm
46 Card catalogue entries
50 Personally
52 Trollope's "Lady ——"
53 "Ars Poetica" poet
55 Cause of some shaking
56 "Put —— my tab"
57 Soccer squad
58 Quaker verb
59 "The Outsiders" actor
60 Rub' al Khali, e.g.
61 Sycophant's response

DOWN

1 Special effort
2 What the game may be
3 Come-on line
4 Rodomontade user
5 Meal
6 Start of a Marx Brothers title
7 Come-on line
8 Morse bit
9 Postcard scenes, sometimes
10 Afternoon service
11 Come-on line
12 "ER" actor Epps
13 Dundee toppers
21 Sign up
23 River at Bristol
26 Bartender's "twists," maybe
29 Stack
30 Connecting pipes
31 Expansion team of 1962
32 Gray area?: Abbr.
33 The cardinal fire sign
36 Became extinct
37 "That's a lie!"
39 Yokel
40 Carefree
42 New Orleans university
43 Textile joiner
46 Between, in Bayonne
47 Gnats and brats
48 Shadow
49 Fascinated by
51 Narthex neighbor
54 Good —— boy

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	H	O	R	E		C	A	A	N		M	O	I	L
A	A	R	O	N		O	S	L	O		U	L	N	A
B	U	L	L	D	U	R	H	A	M		K	E	P	I
S	T	Y	L	I	S	T		S	E	L	L	O	U	T
				V	E	E	S			O	U	S	T	S
S	I	L	V	E	R	S	T	R	E	A	K			
I	V	I	E	S			R	A	N	D		U	P	A
T	A	F	T		R	A	I	N	S		A	S	A	P
E	N	E		T	A	N	K			O	L	D	I	E
		B	A	D	N	E	W	S	B	E	A	R	S	
S	A	L	E	S			R	A	E	S				
T	R	I	N	K	E	T		D	R	E	A	D	E	D
A	M	A	D		T	R	A	D	E	R	H	O	R	N
N	O	N	E		T	O	L	L		V	A	N	N	A
G	R	A	D		A	N	T	E		E	S	S	E	S

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute).
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.